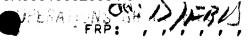
10/22/

CONFIDENTIAL



STATEL BBC

ACTION: NONE INFO: DDPS-S, RF, FILE, CR/E, D/FBIS-2, EUR-3, IAD/CAS-3, NIO/WE, OCO/WE, DRPA/II-2, DRPA/WEN-2, (17/W)

79 3049927

PAGE 001

NC 3049927

TOR: 080008Z SEP 79

PP RUEALIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
TPP RUDTC
DE RUEHC #5475 2502232
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 072008Z SEP 79
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 7965
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235475

JOINT STATE-ICA MESSAGE

E.O. 12065: GDS 9/5/85 (FUNSETH, ROBERT L.)

TAGS: SOPN, UK

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REDUCTION IN BEC OVERSEAS BROADCASTING

REF: LDNDON 16966

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

- 2. AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT SHARE EMBASSY'S VIEW THAT BBC OVERSEAS BROADCASTING BROADLY SUPPORT U.S. INTERESTS. VOA AND BBC BROADCASTS IN SIGNIFICANT MEASURE COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER. SEVERE CUTBACKS IN BBC OVERSEAS PROGRAMMING WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR JOINT INTERESTS.
- 3. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR CONCERN SHOULD BE CONVEYED, BUT WE WOULD NOT WANT TO SUGGEST INTERVENTION IN HMG DECISION-MAKING, PARTICULARLY SINCE FINAL JUDGMENT ON THE CUTBACKS HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED. WE SUPPORT THE COURSE PROPOSED BY THE EMBASSY TO PLACE "POSSIBLE BBC OVERSEAS BROADCAST REDUCTIONS" ON THE AGENDA FOR THE VOA/BBC DISCUSSIONS. WE SHOULD STRESS, HOWEVER, OUR PURPOSE TO SEEK MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FCO/BBC PLANS AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR

VOA. THE MERE DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION IN THIS FORUM

CONFIDENTIAL

State Dept. review completed

V (Mh

Approved For Release 2008/07/22 : CIA-RDP84-00868R000100020004-9

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

79 3049927

PAGE 002

NC 3049927

TOR: 080008Z SEP 79

WILL ADEQUATELY PROJECT U.S. CONCERN AT THIS STAGE.
INFORMATION GAINED AT THE VOA/BBC MEETING WILL ALSO
HELP TO DETERMINE POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTIONS U.S. MIGHT
TAKE WITH HMG. WE LEAVE TO EMBASSY'S DISCRETION WHETHER
SUBJECT MIGHT BE USEFULLY RAISED ON INFORMAL BASIS
WITH LEADING TORIES AND OTHERS. VANCE

END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL